

Message Text

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TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

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TAGS: PFOR, SF

SUBJECT: PRINCIPAL ELEMENTS IN FOREIGN MINISTER MULLER'S
AUGUST 13 SPEECH

REF: STATE 202818

1. THE FOLLOWING ARE THE PRINCIPAL EXCERPTS COVERING
RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN MINIS-
TER'S AUGUST 13 SPEECH.

2. "...WITH REGARD TO RHODESIA THE SECRETARY OF STATE SAID
THAT HE COULD OBVIOUSLY NOT GO INTO DETAILS ABOUT DELICATE
AND COMPLICATED NEGOTIATIONS WHICH ARE STILL IN A FORMATIVE
STAGE. HE ADMITTED THAT THE TASK WAS FORMIDABLE BUT BY NO
MEANS IMPOSSIBLE.

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"WHILE IT IS THEREFORE STILL UNCERTAIN WHAT THE OUTCOME OF

DR. KISSINGER'S DELIBERATIONS WITH OTHER INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS WILL BE, AND ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT FOR THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT TO DETERMINE HOW THE PROBLEM SHOULD BE TACKLED AND SOLVED, I WANT TO DECLARE ONCE AGAIN THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WELCOMES THIS INITIATIVE AND THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUEST TO DEMONSTRATE OUR COMMITMENT TO AFRICA BY GIVING OUR FULL SUPPORT FOR A PEACEFUL OUTCOME.

"IN HIS SPEECH LAST WEEK, THE SECRETARY OF STATE REPEATED THAT THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTED THE BRITISH PROPOSAL FOR MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA WITHIN TWO YEARS. ACCORDING TO HIM "THE ISSUE IS NOT WHETHER CHANGE (TO MAJORITY RULE) WILL TAKE PLACE -- BUT HOW: WHETHER BY VIOLENCE OR BY PEACEFUL MEANS....WHETHER BY GUNS OR THROUGH ACCOMMODATION".

"IN ADDITION TO THIS CONFIRMATION OF AMERICA'S WELL-

KNOWN APPROACH, A NEW ELEMENT WAS INTRODUCED IN DR. KISSINGER'S SPEECH, WHICH IS BOTH INTERESTING AND ENCOURAGING. HE WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO STRESS THE NECESSITY NOT TO IGNORE THE RIGHTS OF THE MINORITY IN RHODESIA. IN THE COURSE OF HIS STATEMENT HE DEALT WITH IT, IN SOME FORM OR OTHER, NO LESS THAN SEVEN TIMES AND IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS, WHICH IS INDEED SIGNIFICANT..."

3"...WHAT SHOULD OUR ATTITUDE BE TOWARDS THE DIRECTION IN WHICH DR. KISSINGER AND THE UNITED STATES ARE APPARENTLY MOVING?

"I BELIEVE THAT IT SHOULD BE HEARTILY WELCOMED AND THAT WE MUST HOPE THEIR EFFORTS WILL BE CROWNED WITH SUCCESS. AS FAR AS THE PRESUMPTION THAT A MAJORITY GOVERNMENT IS INEVITABLE IS CONCERNED -- IT IS NOT FOR US TO ADOPT A POSITION. WHAT OUR OWN POLICY IN THIS RESPECT FOR SOUTH AFRICA IS YOU ALL KNOW. BUT RHODESIA HAS OVER THE YEARS HAD ANOTHER POLICY WHICH DIFFERS FUNDAMENTALLY FROM OUR POLICY OF SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT, SEPARATE FREEDOMS. MR. SMITH STATED FOR EXAMPLE LAST YEAR IN PUBLIC "THAT EVERY CONSTITUTION WE HAVE HAD IN RHODESIA HAS BEEN BASED

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ON THE PRINCIPLE OF MAJORITY RULE" -- WITH CERTAIN QUALIFICATIONS.

"IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BY RICHARD KERSHAW OF THE BBC WHETHER EVENTUAL MAJORITY RULE IS PRECLUDED, HE REPLIED: "NO, CERTAINLY WE HAVE NEVER EVER SAID THAT MAJORITY RULE ISN'T SOMETHING WHICH IS INHERENT IN THE RHODESIAN CONSTITUTION." (12 MAY 1975)

"IN LIGHT OF ALL THIS NOBODY CAN EXPECT SOUTH AFRICA TO WITHHOLD ITS SUPPORT FROM THE EFFORTS BY DR. KISSINGER AND OTHERS SIMPLY BECAUSE MAJORITY RULE IS THE POINT FROM WHICH THEY PROCEED.

"AS I HAVE INDICATED, THIS PRINCIPLE HAS AFTER ALL BEEN INHERENT IN RHODESIAN CONSTITUTIONAL PHILOSOPHY. ALL INDICATIONS ARE THAT DR. KISSINGER IS AIMING TO REACH A SIT-

UATION WHERE THE RIGHTS AND INTERESTS OF THE WHITE MAJORITY WOULD BE PROTECTED. MR. SMITH HIMSELF IS OF COURSE ALSO ON RECORD AS HAVING SAID THAT ANY CONSTITUTIONAL AGREEMENT SHOULD HAVE BUILT-IN GUARANTEES. BUT ONE GETS THE IMPRESSION THAT DR. KISSINGER HAS IN MIND NOT ONLY CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES. HOWEVER, TIME WILL CLARIFY PRECISELY WHAT IS INVOLVED.

4. "...IF SUCH A SOLUTION IS SOUGHT, THERE IS MERIT IN IT AND IT SHOULD BE GENERALLY WELCOMED, ALTHOUGH WE ARE REALISTICALLY ALIVE TO THE PRACTICAL PROBLEMS WHICH WILL HAVE TO BE SOLVED.

"IF IT SUCCEEDS IT WILL BE A POWERFUL CONTRIBUTION TO GENERAL STABILITY IN THE WHOLE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. IN ADDITION IT WILL ALSO ENTAIL INTERNAL STABILITY IN THE DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.

"THIS IS ALSO VALID FOR SOUTH WEST AFRICA. AN ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION THERE WILL NECESSARILY BE CONDUCIVE TO STABILITY, NOT JUST IN THE TERRITORY, BUT IN WIDER CIRCLES. WHAT ARE THE CHANCES OF SUCCESS? I PERSONALLY THINK THE CHANCES ARE GOOD. SOME PROGRESS HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE.
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THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL IS NOW IN SESSION AND I AM HOPEFUL THAT FURTHER PROGRESS WILL BE ANNOUNCED BEFORE THE END OF THE MONTH. IN THE LIGHT HERE-OF IT SEEMS TO ME INADVISABLE TO ENLARGE FURTHER OVER SOUTH WEST AFRICA, BUT RATHER TO AWAIT DEVELOPMENTS. " ROBINSON

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